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Max S. Baucus

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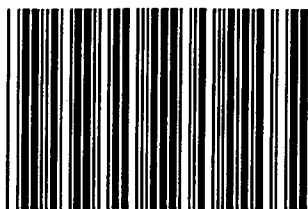
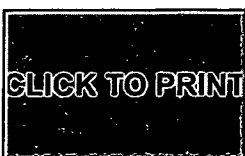
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(2) Subject* **Supercollider Conference**

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BAUCUS

SPEECH TO SUPERCOLLIDER CONFERENCE

MARCH 16, 1987

INTRODUCTION

THANK YOU, KEITH (COLBO).

I'D LIKE TO COMMEND JIM BOUCK, THE CITY OF ANACONDA AND DEER LODGE COUNTY FOR THEIR WORK IN ORGANIZING THIS STATEWIDE CONFERENCE.

WE ALL KNOW THAT MONTANA HAS BEEN THROUGH SOME TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES. ALL OF OUR MAJOR INDUSTRIES HAVE SUFFERED.

THERE ARE NO EASY SOLUTIONS. BUT WE HAVE TWO CHOICES: GIVE UP, OR DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

THIS CONFERENCE IS FOR THE FOLKS WHO WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

THE POLITICAL DIMENSION

WE LEARNED A LOT THIS MORNING ABOUT PHYSICS. NOW IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT POLITICS.

THE FIRST QUESTION IS WHETHER CONGRESS WILL APPROPRIATE THE BILLIONS IT WILL TAKE TO BUILD THE SUPERCOLLIDER.

MY ANSWER IS "YES," BUT A QUALIFIED YES.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS GOING THROUGH THE SAME PROCESS AS THE STATE GOVERNMENT: SETTING PRIORITIES AND CUTTING PROGRAMS.

BECAUSE OF ITS PRICETAG, THE SUPERCOLLIDER PROJECT WILL RECEIVE CAREFUL CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW. AND IT SHOULD.

SUPERCOLLIDER MUST COMPETE WITH OTHER IMPORTANT PROJECTS FOR A SCARCE POOL OF FEDERAL RESEARCH FUNDS.

TO DATE, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HAS BEEN FUNDING ONLY PRELIMINARY RESEARCH, MOSTLY FOR THE

ADVANCED DESIGN GROUP AT BERKELEY. TWENTY-MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR HAS GONE INTO THAT RESEARCH SINCE 1984. THAT'S ACTUALLY AN INSIGNIFICANT AMOUNT COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL \$566.6 MILLION BUDGET FOR ALL HIGH ENERGY RESEARCH.

WHEN CONGRESS CONSIDERS THE PRESIDENT'S RECENTLY SUBMITTED BUDGET, IT WILL INCLUDE \$35 MILLION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1988 FOR SUPERCOLLIDER.

THAT AMOUNT BEGINS TO SKYROCKET IN 1989 WHEN \$348 MILLION WILL BE REQUIRED. SOON AFTER THAT IT WILL OVERTAKE THE TOTAL BUDGET FOR HIGH ENERGY UNTIL A FINAL TOTAL COST OF ABOUT SIX BILLION DOLLARS IS REACHED IN 1996.

THAT'S THE BAD NEWS. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT, IN THE END, CONGRESS IS LIKELY TO CONCLUDE THAT THE SUPERCOLLIDER FITS WITHIN OUR NATIONAL PRIORITIES.

THROUGHOUT HISTORY, BREAKTHROUGHS IN BASIC SCIENCE HAVE DRIVEN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS. THE SUPERCOLLIDER SEEKS THE ANSWER TO THE MOST

BASIC OF NATURE'S RIDDLES -- WHAT ARE THE BUILDING
BLOCKS OF MATTER?

THE ANSWER TO THIS RIDDLE WILL PROPEL OUR
CIVILIZATION, JUST AS THE DISCOVERY OF ATOMS,
PROTONS, NEUTRONS AND ELECTRONS HAVE BEEN THE
BUILDING BLOCKS OF PAST SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS.

CONGRESS WILL EVENTUALLY RECOGNIZE THIS, IN
THE SAME WAY THAT IT RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE APOLLO SPACE PROGRAM.

IN SHORT, I PREDICT THAT CONGRESS WILL AP-
PROVE THE SUPERCOLLIDER, AND APPROPRIATE THE MONEY
TO BUILD IT.

THE COMPETITION

THAT'S JUST ONE STEP.

ANOTHER WILL BE DECIDING WHERE THE
SUPERCOLLIDER WILL BE LOCATED.

THE COMPETITION WILL BE FIERCE. SOME LARGE STATES ALREADY HAVE SPENT MILLIONS TO PREPARE FOR THE BATTLE. AND, LET'S FACE IT, STATES LIKE TEXAS WITH ITS 29 SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES HAVE MORE RAW POLITICAL CLOUT THAN MONTANA WITH OUR FOUR.

SO HOW GOOD A CHANCE DOES MONTANA HAVE?

AS GOOD AS WE MAKE IT.

I HAVE SPOKEN WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. THEY HAVE ASSURED ME THAT THE SUPERCOLLIDER DECISION WOULD BE BASED ON FACTS, NOT POLITICS. AND THEY AGREE THAT MONTANA HAS THE FRAMEWORK FOR A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION.

THE NECESSARY FRAMEWORK

SUPERCOLLIDER NEEDS LAND -- AND LOTS OF IT. THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS LOOKING FOR 11,000 ACRES OF FLAT LAND WITH LOW WATER TABLES.

WE CAN OFFER THAT.

SUPERCOLLIDER NEEDS POWER AND WATER.

MONTANA IS NOTED FOR ITS INEXPENSIVE ENERGY SUPPLIES AND ABUNDANT WATER RESOURCES. MONTANA POWER HAS ALREADY SAID IT CAN MEET MOST OF THE POWER REQUIREMENTS FROM ITS COLSTRIP 4 PLANT.

SUPERCOLLIDER NEEDS DEPENDABLE AIR SERVICE AND SOLID UNIVERSITY SUPPORT.

WHILE WE DON'T HAVE A MAJOR AIRLINE HUB, WE CAN PROVIDE CONVENIENT TERMINAL FACILITIES AND GOOD BASIC AIR SERVICE.

AND WHILE WE MUST BE REALISTIC IN FACING THE PROBLEMS OF OUR UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BUDGET, I DON'T BELIEVE THAT'S A FACTOR THAT WILL ELIMINATE US FROM THE PROCESS.

WHEN YOU ADD IT ALL UP, MONTANA HAS A SHOT.

WE ARE COMPETITIVE.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

SO IT'S UP TO US.

FIRST OF ALL, THE STATE MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO INVEST THE TIME AND MONEY IT WILL TAKE TO DEVELOP A FIRST-CLASS APPLICATION.

AFTER ALL, THE SUPERCOLLIDER IS A GAMBLE. AND WE KNOW THAT THE STATE'S RESOURCES ARE LIMITED.

BUT IF WE DECIDE TO TAKE A SHOT AT IT, WE SHOULD MAKE IT THE BEST SHOT WE'VE GOT.

THAT PROCESS HAS STARTED.

GOVERNOR SCHWINDEN HAS PLEDGED HIS SUPPORT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IS AT THE DRAWING BOARD.

JOHN VINCENT IS TAKING THE LEAD IN THE LEGISLATURE AND IS PREPARED TO INTRODUCE A BILL THAT WOULD SET ASIDE BETWEEN \$100,000 AND ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO FINANCE A PROPOSAL.

AND PAUL SCHMECHEL AND THE MONTANA
AMBASSADORS ARE READY TO DO WHAT THEY CAN TO BRING
THE SUPERCOLLIDER TO MONTANA.

THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION HAS AN IMPORTANT
ROLE TO PLAY. THIS IS NOT AN IDEOLOGICAL ISSUE.
IT'S MONTANA JOBS, PLAIN AND SIMPLE. JOHN, PAT,
RON, AND I WILL WORK TOGETHER TO HELP IN EVERY WAY
THAT WE POSSIBLY CAN.

I'LL PERSONALLY BIRD-DOG SECRETARY HERRINGTON
AND DOE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE DECISION IS BASED ON
MERIT, NOT POLITICS. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THIS
MEANS MAKING SURE THAT THE PROCESS GIVES MONTANA
AND OTHER SMALL STATES ENOUGH TIME TO PREPARE
COMPETITIVE APPLICATIONS.

MY STAFF HAS ALREADY MET WITH DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY OFFICIALS WHO HAVE PROMISED THAT MONTANA IS
NOT BEHIND THOSE STATES THAT HAVE ALREADY SPENT
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO ATTRACT SUPERCOLLIDER.

DOE HAS ALSO ASSURED US THAT BEING CLOSE TO A
MAJOR RESEARCH CENTER IS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS OTHER
SUPERCOLLIDER CRITERIA.

THEY TELL US IF MONTANA CAN PUT TOGETHER
ELEMENTS LIKE POWER-COST INCENTIVES WITH ITS OTHER
ASSETS OF LAND, WATER AND POWER RESOURCES, WE'LL
BE IN THE RUNNING.

AS THE SITE SELECTION PROCESS CONTINUES, MY
OFFICE WILL BE HELPING YOU IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

--WE'LL GIVE YOU A STEADY SUPPLY OF WHATEVER
INFORMATION YOU NEED WHETHER IT'S FROM DOE,
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES OR PRIVATE COR-
PORATIONS.

--WE'LL CONTINUE TO MONITOR DOE AS THE
PROCESS CONTINUES.

--WE'LL ENCOURAGE THE COMMITTEES THAT
AUTHORIZE AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR
SUPERCOLLIDER TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT.

--AND WE'LL COOPERATE WITH YOU TO BUILD AN
EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP FOR CAPTURING
SUPERCOLLIDER.

BY WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE SURE MONTANA GETS A FAIR SHAKE IN COMPETING FOR THE SUPERCOLLIDER. AFTER ALL, WE HAVE THE ELEMENTS THE PROJECT NEEDS MOST.

CONCLUSION

THERE WAS AN INTERESTING STORY IN THE BILLINGS GAZETTE LAST WEEK.

SENATOR LLOYD BENTSEN OF TEXAS WAS ACCUSING DOE OF TRYING TO SKEW THE SITE SELECTION PROCESS.

ON ONE LEVEL, IT'S SURPRISING THAT TEXAS, WITH ITS HUGE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, HAS THE SAME WORRIES THAT WE DO.

BUT MAYBE THOSE TEXANS SHOULD BE WORRIED. AFTER ALL, MONTANA HAS A LONG TRADITION OF CHALLENGING THE BIG GUY AND COMING OUT A WINNER.

SUPERCOLLIDER CAN PROVIDE EXACTLY THE KIND OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT MONTANA NEEDS. IF WE DECIDE IT'S WORTH THE GAMBLE, I'M CONFIDENT THAT

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WE CAN WORK TOGETHER AND COMPETE WITH THE BEST OF
THEM.

THANK YOU.